

Dear Co-Chairs, Vice- Chairs, and members of the Human Services Committee:

I am writing in support of SB 284, AN ACT INCREASING THE AGE FROM EIGHT TO EIGHTEEN YEARS FOR AN INCOME-ELIGIBLE PERSON TO OBTAIN MEDICAL ASSISTANCE REGARDLESS OF IMMIGRATION STATUS.

I am a member of New Haven Friends Meeting (Quakers), and a resident of New Haven.

At this moment in global history, we are fully realizing how people around the world may need to leave their home countries for their own safety, bringing along their children, and adjusting to a new life. This is not new. The migrants who are already here need us to recognize their humanity, and that they may need some help to stay healthy as they rebuild their lives here.

As migrants get established here, it is important that their families are able to get the health care they need. It is important for the children, their parents, and, as we have seen with COVID, it is important for the wider community for all of us to have access to medical care.

SB 284 will extend medical assistance to income-eligible migrant families with children from the ages of 8 to 18.

This is the right thing to do, for their benefit and for our own.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Stoner, New Haven